

image

24

DIGITAL
EDITION

LAYMAN

SEGOVIA

RAMOS

THE

SCORCHED

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image

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RAMOS



TONTON
REVOLVER

THE SCORCHED



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SPAWN CREATED BY
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PREVIOUSLY IN THE SCORCHED

A confrontation with Spawn forces Jessica to make a decision. Will she lead The Scorched or walk away?

PROLOGUE.

ON THE
OUTSKIRTS
OF **YORK**,
IN FOG
LADEN
TERRAIN,
THERE'S A
RUIN OF
WHICH
ALMOST
NOTHING IS
KNOWN.

AN OLD CHURCH,
UNMENTIONED IN ANY
HISTORY BOOK, ITS
DETAILS A MYSTERY
TO EVEN THE MOST
LEARNED SCHOLAR.

ALMOST AS IF ALL
KNOWLEDGE OF
IT WAS ERASED
MANY YEARS AND
CENTURIES AGO.

AS IF IT WAS
MEANT TO BE
FORGOTTEN.

THE LOCALS KNOW TO AVOID
THIS PLACE, AS IT HASN'T
HAD A VISITOR IN YEARS.

WHAM

UNTIL
TONIGHT.



KRX



WELL?

IT'S
HERE, MISTER
BISHOP.

THE
PASSAGEWAY
IS RIGHT WHERE
YOU SAID IT
WOULD BE.



OF
COURSE
IT IS.





THIS
PLACE, HOW
OLD YOU THINK
IT IS, SIR?

IT WAS
BUILT IN
THE THIRD
AND FOURTH
DECADES OF
THE 16TH
CENTURY.

AND IT WAS
BUILT FOR A
SPECIFIC
PURPOSE.

DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE
ANY CHURCH
I'VE SEEN.

THAT'S
THE POINT, IT
WASN'T MEANT
TO BE.

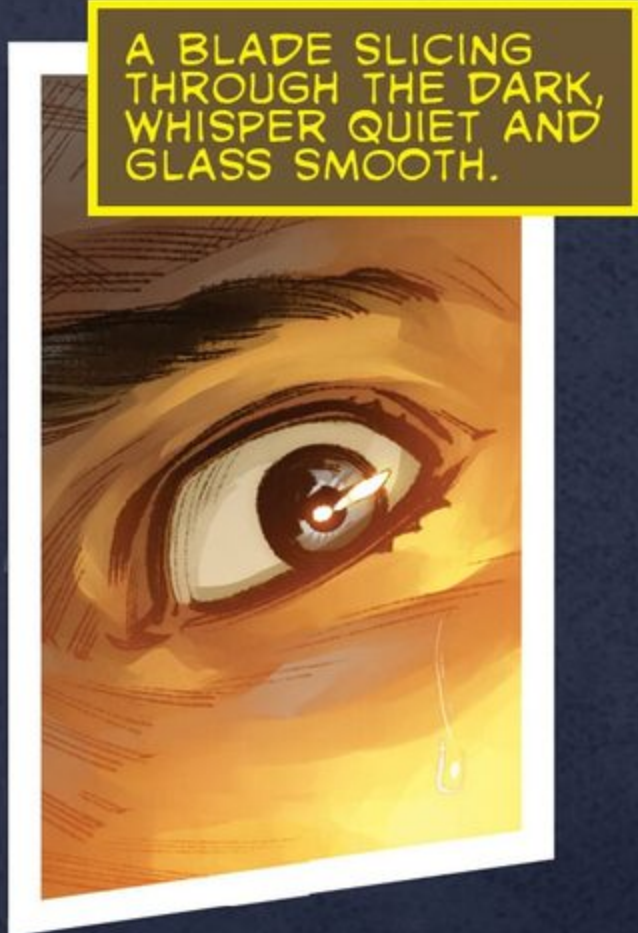
IT'S A
PLACE OF
WORSHIP, BUT
THIS IS *NOT*
A HOLY
PLACE.

IS IT
SAFE TO BE
HERE?



ABSOLUTELY NOT.

AND THEN, A SOUND.



A BLADE SLICING THROUGH THE DARK, WHISPER QUIET AND GLASS SMOOTH.



THEN THE MAN KNOWN AS BISHOP IS ALONE.



DAUGHTER OF DARKNESS, MISTRESS OF DECEIT--

--I'M HERE TO **FREE** YOU.

FREE ME?
YOU THINK YOU'RE CAPABLE OF THAT?



YES.
I **KNOW** WHO IT IS YOU **TRULY** HATE. THE ONE THAT **PUT** YOU HERE.
AND HE STILL LIVES.

IF I **RELEASE** YOU, YOU CAN REMEDY THAT.





I'VE
BEEN LOCKED
HERE FAR
TOO LONG.

WITH
ONLY MY
HUNGER--

--AND MY
HATE.

IF YOU
HAVE THE
POWER TO GIVE
ME MY FREEDOM--
THEN RELEASE ME!
LET ME FINALLY
HAVE MY
REVENGE.

END PROLOGUE.



FOR JESSICA PRIEST, THE LAST FEW WEEKS HAVE BEEN... EVENTFUL.

HER TEAM, 'THE SCORCHED', SAVED THE WORLD, BUT IN THAT PROCESS JESSICA ALMOST LOST HERSELF.

SELF-DOUBT AND GUILT CAME BUBBLING TO THE SURFACE.



THAT WAS *BEFORE* SHE WENT TOE-TO-TOE WITH HER MENTOR, HER FRIEND, AND THE ONE PERSON SHE RESPECTED --AND *FEARED*--MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE... *AL SIMMONS*.

THINGS GOT UGLY.



BUT EVENTUALLY, AL SET HER STRAIGHT.

DIDN'T HE?



SOMETIMES, A LONG, FAST, HARD RIDE -- IS EXACTLY WHAT JESSICA NEEDS TO CLEAR HER HEAD.



OTHER TIMES ALL SHE NEEDS IS COMPANY.



'LO, MARC.

AM I LATE?

I'M EARLY.





HOW'S THAT ALL WORK, ANYWAY? I'VE NEVER UNDERSTOOD.

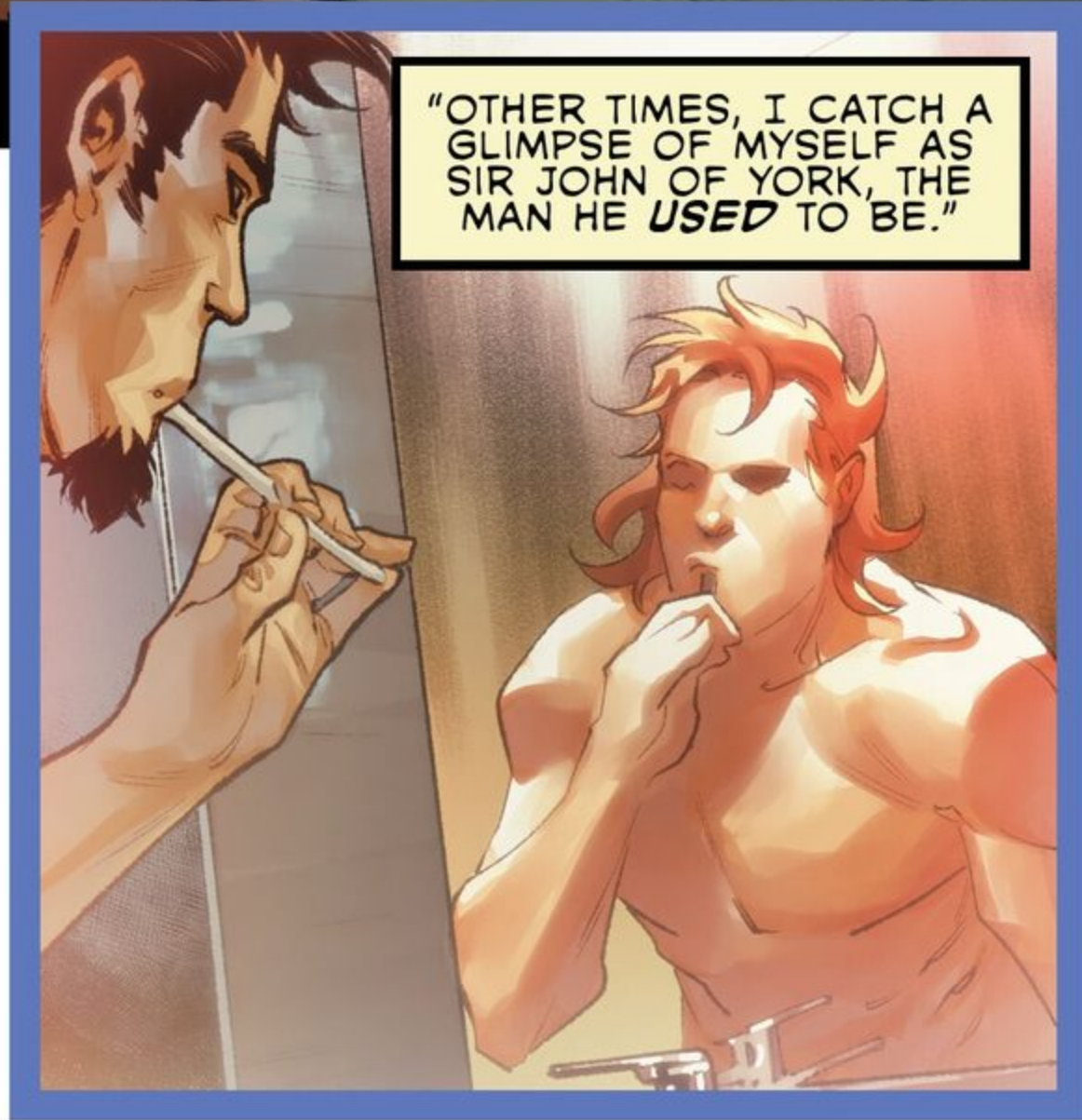
YOU AND MEDIEVAL SPAWN-- IS IT LIKE TWO VOICES IN YOUR HEAD, OR TWO MINDS TIME-SHARING ONE BODY?

HARD TO EXPLAIN.

THERE'S A **SEPARATION** BETWEEN US, BUT SOMETIMES I JUST **KNOW** THINGS, OR CAN FEEL WHAT HE'S IS FEELING,



"SOME-TIMES, WHEN I SEE MY REFLECTION, IT'S **HIS**."



"OTHER TIMES, I CATCH A GLIMPSE OF MYSELF AS SIR JOHN OF YORK, THE MAN HE **USED** TO BE."



MORE AND MORE, IT'S GETTING HARDER TO TELL WHERE I END AND MEDIEVAL BEGINS.



AND THE LONGER MEDIEVAL'S PART OF ME, THE LESS I FEEL LIKE MYSELF.

I **HATE** IT.



HOPE I'M NOT INTERRUPTING ANYTHING IMPORTANT.

REDEEMER?



WHAT'S THIS ABOUT, JESSICA? SOME KINDA GOOD-BYE?

ARE YOU **ACTUALLY** QUITTING THE SCORCHED?

WAS THINKING ABOUT IT. BUT AL SET ME STRAIGHT.



NOW I'M THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE.

THAT'S WHAT I'M HERE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.



HEY, **BIG RED!**

WHAT'S A WOMAN FINE AS YOU DOIN' WITH THESE TWO NERD-BOYS?



WHEN YOU COULD HAVE SOME **REAL MEN.**

OH, I'D LOVE TO BE WITH SOME **REAL MEN--**



--BE SURE TO POINT THEM OUT IF ANY SHOW UP.



THINK
YOU'RE
FUNNY
LADY?

LISTEN,
FRIEND, WE JUST
CAME FOR SOME **QUIET**
CONVERSATION.

NOT
LOOKING FOR ANY
TROUBLE.



THAT'S **YOUR**
PROBLEM!



no,
mark.

no
helmet,
please

NO POWERS
EITHER,
BECAUSE...



WE DON'T
NEED
THEM!

POW



WHAT HAPPENED NEXT
COULD HARDLY BE
CONSIDERED A FIGHT.

MORE LIKE A
BRUTAL THRASHING.

IN THEIR SHORT TIME TOGETHER,
THE SCORCHED HAVE FACED
IMPOSSIBLE ODDS, DANGER AND
FOUGHT INSURMOUNTABLE ENEMIES.



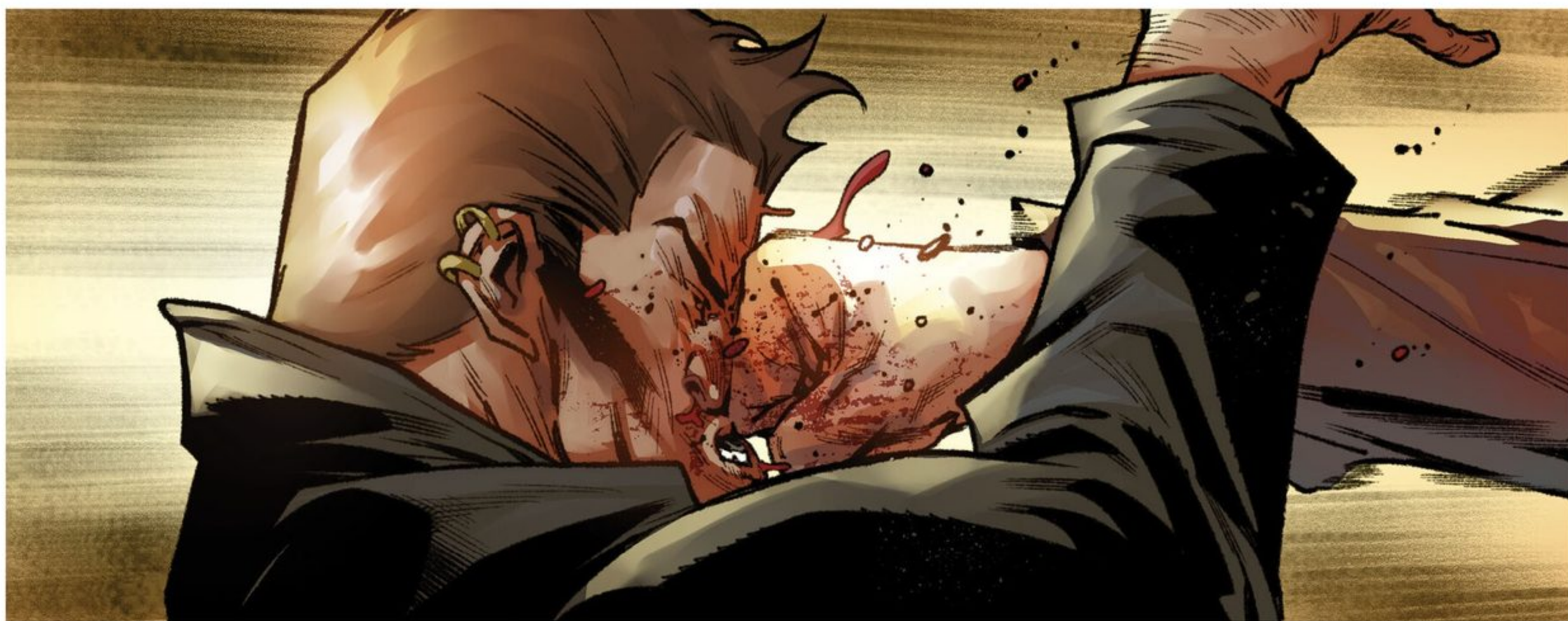
THIS WAS NONE
OF THOSE THINGS.



THE ONLY THING THAT
HIT ANY OF THESE
THREE TEAMMATES
WAS A **REVELATION.**



OF HOW **WELL**
THEY FIGHT
TOGETHER.



BECAUSE THERE'S NO
DENYING, AFTER ALL THEY'VE
BEEN THROUGH, THEY'VE
SINCE BECOME A *TEAM*.



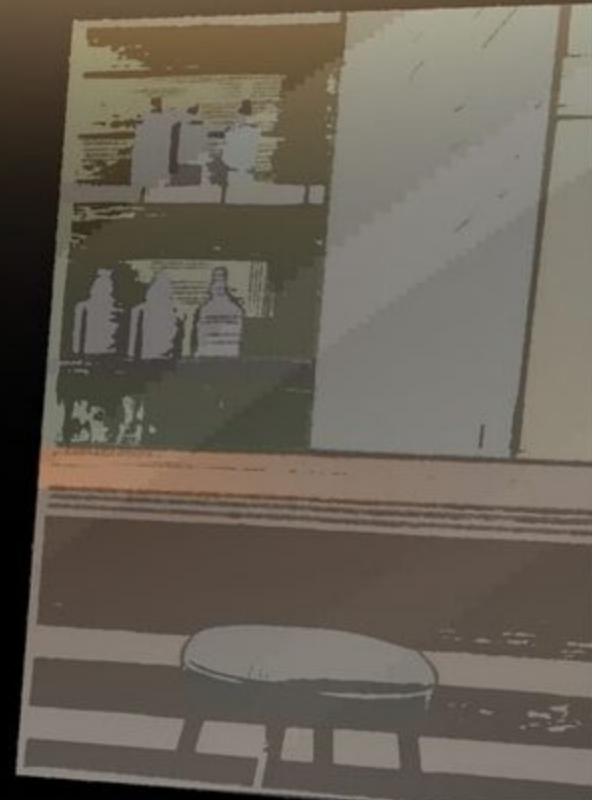
NOW
BOYS...

AND A *DAMN*
GOOD ONE.



AL'S
GOING TO
BE STEPPING
AWAY FROM
THINGS.

HE'S
DEALING WITH
HIS OWN STUFF,
I'VE GOT A FEELING
THINGS WILL GET A
LOT WORSE FOR HIM
BEFORE IT GETS
BETTER.



SO,
THAT CURRENTLY
MAKES US THE
SCORCHED.

WE CAN
BE MANY THINGS.
SOMETIMES WE'LL BE
A HAMMER. SOMETIMES
A SCALPEL. AND OTHER
TIMES WE NEED TO
BE A SHADOW.

AND THE
OTHERS... MONOLITH,
SOUL-CRUSHER, HAUNT,
THE FREAK... THEY'RE
JUST **TOOLS**. WE USE
THEM AS NEEDED.



AL LEFT
ME **IN CHARGE**, BUT
ONLY IF I WAS 100%
COMMITTED.

I AM.

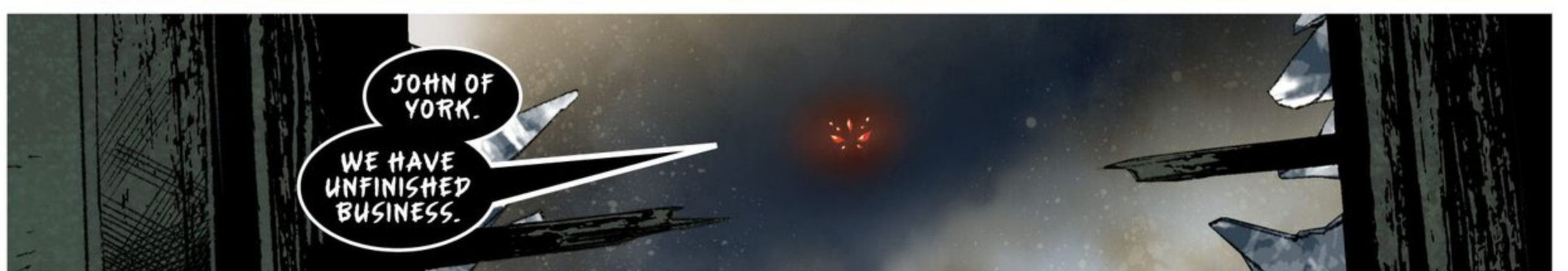
BUT,
BAD THINGS ARE
COMING.

SO, WE ALL
NEED TO BE COMMITTED
TO THIS - - AND MY
LEADERSHIP.



CAN I
COUNT ON
YOU?







HARDLY.
ONE OF THE
VERY WORST OF
MY ENEMIES.

FROM
BACK IN MY
TIME.

FRIEND OF
YOURS,
MEDIEVAL?

I
THOUGHT
I KILLED
YOU.

YOU CAN
BE SURE I WON'T
MAKE THE MISTAKE
OF LEAVING YOU
ALIVE AGAIN.

DOES
SHE SEEM
FAMILIAR TO
ANYONE
ELSE?

GIVE
THE ORDER,
MEDIEVAL.

YOU
TRAPPED ME
AND LEFT ME FOR
DEAD. BIG
DIFFERENCE.

THE IDEA
OF KILLING YOU
KEPT ME ALIVE
ALL THESE
CENTURIES.



HAS
THE PHLEBIAC
FAMILY NAME BEEN
FORGOTTEN IN
THIS ERA?

WHAT OF MY
BROTHERS?
SURELY VIOLATOR
STILL LIVES.

OR CAN
IT BE HIS
SISTER IS THE
LAST ONE
STANDING?

IF THAT'S
TRUE, THEN I'LL
TAKE MY REVENGE
OUT ON ALL OF YOU!
YOU'LL SEE WHY I'M
STILL ALIVE. WHY
THEY CALL ME...

THE
VISCERATOR



SPAWNING GROUND

PRESENTS:

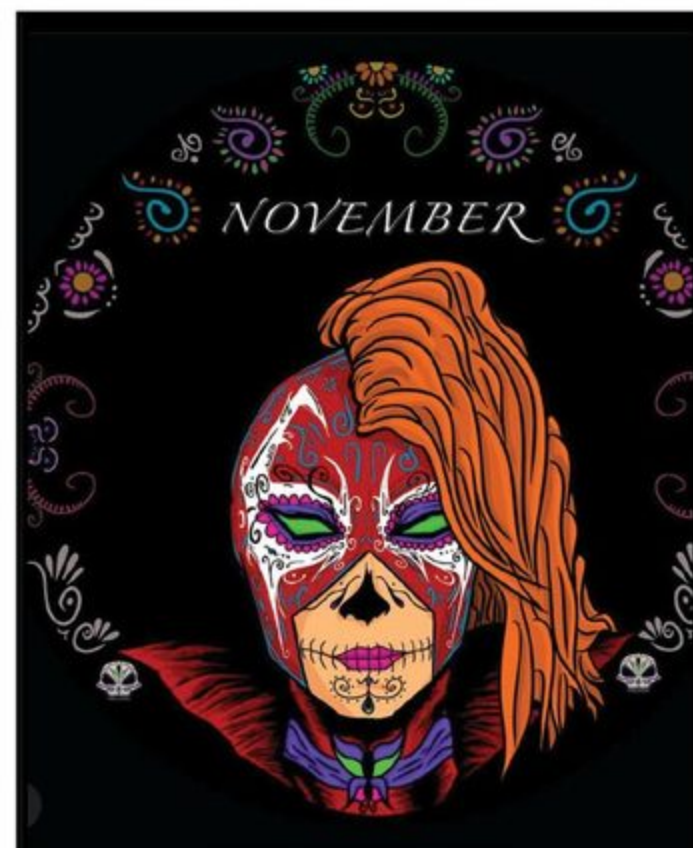
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@quahkm



Do you have a question or comment about Spawn? If so, e-mail it to us at:
spawningground@mcfarlane.com

NEED MORE SPAWN'S ? UNIVERSE

DON'T MISS THESE ONGOING TITLES!

SPAWN

KING
SPAWN®

THE
SCORCHED

GUNSLINGER



DECEMBER 2023

DECEMBER 2023

JANUARY 2024

OUR BETRAYALS WRITE
THEMSELVES IN OUR FLESH...

WHAT WILL SAVE MAIKA?



BLOOD · LOYALTY · LOVE

MONSTRESSTM

THE POSSESSED

A NEW STORY ARC BEGINS IN ISSUE #49
FEBRUARY 2024

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SANA TAKEDA

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AVAILABLE NOW



THE SCORCHED 25



DECEMBER 2023



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